

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7468**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1553

**NOTE PREPARED:** Feb 7, 2003

**BILL AMENDED:** Feb 6, 2003

**SUBJECT:** Mine Safety Fund.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Liggett

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** CR Adopted - 1<sup>st</sup> House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** X GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) This bill requires the Mining Board to assess and collect from underground coal mine operators fees to pay for new underground mine rescue equipment. This bill also requires the Mining Board to report annually to the Commissioner of Labor concerning any need for additional mine inspectors.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2003.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** (Revised) This bill allows the Mining Board to assess mine operators for the purchase and maintenance costs associated with underground mine rescue equipment. Department staff estimate purchase price of required equipment at \$81,000. Additional equipment needs and associated maintenance costs may increase this cost.

**Explanation of State Revenues:** (Revised) This bill requires the Mining Board to assess and collect a fee from underground coal mine operators. This fee is intended to purchase and maintain underground mine rescue equipment. The bill is silent on the amount of the assessment that the Board can impose and where the money is to be deposited upon collection. Any money collected will be deposited in the General Fund by default. An appropriation from the General Fund would be required in order to purchase the required equipment.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Department of Labor.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** Pete Rimsans, Department of Labor, 317-232-2683.

**Fiscal Analyst:** Michael Molnar, 317-232-9559